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### THE WEATHER.

Washington, March 27.-For Missouri Generally fair during the day; warmer; southeast winds. For Kansas: Generally fair, but with increasing cloudiness; southeast winds;

rarmer in eastern portion. For Okiahoma and Indian Territory. Fair, followed by cloudy and threatening weather: south winds.

AS ONE PRENCHMAN SEES US. Most European writers who take up something to think about. Some of them annoy us, a few of them shame us, a very few of them compliment us, but nearly all

of them amuse us.

The prevailing characteristic of our trans-Atlantic critics is an ingenuous confidence that they have made discoveries They take us up with an impertinent curiosity, obviously, if not avowedly, inspired by their own feeling of superiority. To them we are a great enigma, for the most satirical solution of which the literary cults of the European capitals offer prizes. Incidentally they rely upon us to buy their opinions at so much per chapter. More than once when we have been flayed, drawn and quartered, we have paid the

executioner handsomely for his services. Our latest reviewer is an anomalous Frenchman who has written a book on "America and Americans." It is pleasant to note that he is an agreeable exception to the rather irksome rule established by his predecessors. Like them, however, he bases his observations, not upon a prolonged sojourn, but upon flying excursions. He visited Boston, Washington, Chicare Kansas City and the South and made brief stays at New York and Newport, the last two viewpoints being the basis of mos of his comments.

Though necessarily superficial in many respects, our unknown commentator displays a clearness of vision and an appre clation of the truth that one does not ex pect from such effusions. Although some times severe and occasionally unjust, he is cenerally amiable and rarely exotistical. Underlying all his pleasantries and critiere is a serious and thoughtful in tention to show how undemocratic we dem ocrats are.

One of the first observations was our "entire disregard of personal liberty and Individual rights," which statement is rather startling until he expuans that it is hard to make a social inferior of a political being a European republican, has no patience with our aristocratic affectations. He would have us be republicans in fact as well as in theory. He ridicules our love of titles-our "generals," "colonels," "honorables." and our sons and daughters of the Revolution, our knights and nobles, our Colonial dames, our crests and badges "Some of the titles bestowed," he says, "outdo the ascriptions to the Almighty by a negro preacher at a campmeeting." He thinks the greatest social charm of a true republican should be in being his own an-

centor. He says our middle classes stint them selves at home that they may make a show on the street, at church or in the theater. That we show our love of glaring publicity by crowding into hotels and boarding houses in the congested parts of the city and by getting our names into the newspapers.

He admires our readiness in public speech -when he can hear the speeches delivered: when he reads them, he knows they were intended for long ears and not for intelligent minds. With great deterence to our great orators, past and present, our superficial but assertive culture is to him nothing short of amazing.

"Society in America," he says, "is not the society of power, or even prestige, but merely the society of intrigue and amusement. You do not meet the travelers, the journalists, the statesmen and the warriors, but merely those who talk about them. Society, to be permanently interesting, must be made up of idle professionals, not professional idlers."

It was in New York-not in Kansas City -that he met a man in evening dress at a noon wedding. It was in Chicago that the only interruption in his host's discourse on hogs and sausages was brought about by his wife's discussion of Plato. His conclusion was that dilettanteism is out of

place in Chicago. Our newspapers are scored pretty severe ly for their abuse of all men in politics, and for dragging into the public light the families and the histories of political aspirants, so that modest men do not care to have anything to do with public af-

fairs. Our boasted protection of women is a myth, he says: "In the clubs and drawing rooms one hears hints, scandals and innuendos that would prepare the way for a

dozen duels a week in my own country." The field of American politics, says the man from France, while possessing some great and worthy men, is occupied mainly by derhagogues, who are allowed to rule and to misrule, because the representative body, the honest and thrifty classes, do not care to punish those who steal hundreds so long as they themselves can make thousands. They do not care to govern themselves. "This," he says, "is merely an autocracy of those who will do the dirty

machine work, not a republic." It must not be supposed that the book is given up entirely to picking flaws, for

references to our boasted virtues and institutions.

## A BLOW TO THE MOSSBACKS.

The question as to the city's liability for the expenses incurred and the damages sustained by property owners in the prose cution of the plans for the North terrace and the West terrace parks, in case the ordinances creating these parks should be repealed is likely to compromise what little strength there has been in the arguments of the mossbacks and kickers against these improvements.

Although the question has not yet been officially decided, there seems to be no doubt as to the city's liability. It is therefore plain that it would be most disastrous to attempt to undo the work that has already been accomplished. Aside from postponing these improvements until a time when they would be much more costly to an immediate expense and troublesome litigation of great magnitude, and for which there would be absolutely no return except the temporary hushing of the obstructionists.

Now, every one of the kickers has de clared that he is in favor of parks, a declaration that means that parks would not be opposed if they did not involve any cost to the kickers. But, hiding behind this pretense, the kicker poses as the friend of the taxpayers and deplores what he regards as the excessive cost of the proposed acquisitions. What will the kicker say when he is confronted with the fact that to repeal the park ordinances would involve the city in vast expense, without any compensation? His sincerity-or, rather, his insin cerity-will then be put to the test. He will have his excuses and arguments, of ccurse, but they will necessarily be even more specious and transparent than those he has already advanced.

The chronic obstructionist never knows when to submit, however, and the men who America as a subject of treatment give us are opposing parks will continue their opposition until they are humiliated still more They will flaunt their empty pretenses, exploit their unprogressive ideas and present their illogical arguments until they are sent back to their homes to enjoy the fruits of other men's enterprise in spite of their own shortsighted and futile protests. For, like the rain, which falls alike upon the just and the unjust, the benefits of a beautifu park system will accrue alike to the deserving and the undeserving.

#### THE UNAPPRECIATED ADVISER.

The question is often asked whether we are producing any talented men as com pared with the greatest minds of former ages. History is made up chiefly of the accounts of what a few great men really dld, and what lasting impressions they left upon the stream of humanity. If a man's influence died with him, and his thoughts or actions perished with the dissolution of great in the sense in which we at this distance measure greatness. But if, upon the other hand, he has lived in the thoughts of people down the ages, although ridiculed and abused while alive, yet he is called great. Neither is it a safe criterion to measure a really great man by the estimation in which he was held by his countrymen during his life. Our own country furnishes too many painful lliustrations of this fact. It seems incredible that such a man as Washington, one who had done so much, risked all that was dear to him as a man. should have been badgered, vilified and slandered by hundreds of thousands of his countrymen during the last four years of his administration, and, even after he had retired to his home on the Potomac, he was still pursued as an object of spite. This was not all; a mob that opposed Jay's treaty with Great Britain stoned Alexander Hamilton when he arose to speak of its benefits to the United States.

Time has vindicated the policy pursued by Washington, as well as the ability of Hamilton as one of the greatest statesmen equal. On the other hand our Frenchman, the world has ever produced, and the majority of the American people wonder today what the opposition was composed of that it could advocate such heretical ideas, utterly devoid of law, order and constitutional government. But this was American politics as it was practiced a hundred years ago, and it shows, too, how far men, when led by passion instead of reason, will suffer themselves to be drawn away from the truth which becomes as clear as sunlight.

> But our country has always been prollfic in unappreciated geniuses. There has never been a time when we have not been abundantly supplied with enough to stock all the great markets of the world. It makes little difference what subject is under consideration, there will always be found nearby some one who knows just how to do it. and who is abler and better qualified than any other one for the work. We see evidences of this supposed ability displayed every day. Could this surplus of unappreclated genius be utilized in all branches of science, art and the industries, how soon would the world be revolutionized.

> One knows what laws should be enacted to make all the people contented and happy; another has an infallible recipe to break up falsehood by converting all liars into truthful persons; another would have all unite with the churches and thus redeem the world from sin; another would change all the laws and put a tax on land, minus the improvements, and make the dirt bear the burden of the whole world; another would destroy the whole world and then set up a new one, as an echo from a past civilization, and so on through the whole

category of occupations. All these world improvers forget the main fact in life-that each one to succeed must attend strictly to his own business.

A careful estimate verified from numer ous statistics, gathered from many reliable sources, shows that nineteen out of every twenty men engaged in business in this country fail. If this be admitted, then what is the chance that one will succeed in neglecting his own business, if he have any, and attending to his neighbor's business?

Those called geniuses have been such as had the genius of hard work, which was and is only another name of attending strictly to the work one has to do. When ever, then, a specimen of the unappreciated genius begins to bemoan his fate, and wishes to right the world, it is well enough to see what kind of a success such a one had been in his own business before he undertook to reform everybody and everything. There are many Don Quixotes fighting windmills, and they will never fight any other kinds of battles, but continue to represent the knight of the sorrowful countenance and the tale of dismal woe till the

To the unappreciated adviser, although he may be fully saturated with his own conceits, the charm of existence lies in the fact that he seldom or never enters upon that race of life which he deems so essential to the welfare of others. Society is better ordered through the individual ef-

end of time.

there are many frank and complimentary character and conduct than by any other method yet devised.

The only measure of success in this practical age is what one accomplishes, rather than what one says.

ANOTHER KANSAS OUTRAGE. According to reports from Topeka, Webb McNall, the new czar of insurance, has in purpose an act which is outrageous beyond anything that has so far marked his brief but disorderly official career. He proposes to revoke the license of every fire insurance company doing business in Kansas.

The fire companies have established at Topeka a joint agency which prepares maps of all cities and towns and determines the risk incurred in writing policies upon each separate piece of property. This agency does not fix the rate to be charged for insurance, as that is arranged in the home offices of the different companies, but the taxpayers, it would involve the city in it does prepare a schedule which is used by local agents in determining what each piece of property should be charged under the rate which has been established.

Mr. McNall declares that this is an infraction of what is known as the "Burton anti-trust law," a statute enacted by the legislature of 1889, and as penalty he intends to revoke all licenses. This act recites that it shall be unlawful to form trusts or combines which "tend to advance, reduce or control the price or the cost to the producer or to the consumer of any such product or articles, or to control the cost or rate of insurance."

It may be that the insurance companies are guilty of a breach of this law, and if so it is the duty of the state of Kansas, through its constituted officers, to bring the culprits to justice and inflict the penalties which the law provides. These pen alties are fine and imprisonment, together with recourse for damages to any person who may feel himself aggrieved or oppressed. But nowhere in this law is it provided that forfeiture of license shall follow, and McNall has not only invented a penalty of his own motion, but at the same time has revoked those other sections of the act which provide that the accused must be first convicted in the courts.

There is but one way to look at this pro cedure. It is anarchy in its most danger ous form. Its logical sequence is the de struction of law of every kind. It not only denies the constitutional right of every citizen for his day in court, but it usurps the power of the courts themselves. When ever the point is reached that any man may successfully assume the power of passing judgment and inflicting sentence without a hearing, the republican form of government has been destroyed and th constitution goes for naught.

It is to be hoped that some method will quickly be found to clip the wings of this vicious and intolerable Kansas official. his body, he can hardly be reckoned as The fulfillment of his threat to drive the fire insurance companies out would be a serious disaster to the state. He boasts that the companies will "come to their mutton" and obey his conditions before surrendering their profitable Kansas business. But this is not so sure. If they knew the limit of persecution had been reached they might do so. But they know that tomorrow this official might impose new conditions. Instead of demanding that they pay the Hillmon claim and abolish the Topeka agency, he may next time demand a hundred thousand dollars in cash. or even half a million. His autocracy must come to an end somewhere, and right now, in the opinion of the insurance companies, is the time to make the issue. If the principle is to obtain that the insurance com missioner of Kansas can suspend the right of trial by jury, pass judgment on an exparte hearing, and inflict penalties of his own invention, then they do not want to do business in Kansas. To test this question they are now ready to go into the courts, and if McNall is sustained the insurance companies will be exercising nothing more than ordinary business sense if they shake the dust of Kansas from their feet and leave her to the Populists and coyotes.

# EDITORIAL NOTES.

Kansas men should keep away from Washington. Joseph L. Bristow recently went there to inform the president that he didn't want anything, and the president took a mean advantage of his presence and forced an important office on him. It is thought Mr. Bristow may appeal to the courts.

Consul General Jack Gowdy has consented to conform to conventional requirement and wear a necktie at Paris. That is, until the weather grows warm. Of course when the weather is too warm for shirt collars Colonel Gowdy will not encumber himself with a tie. Not even the most fastidious Parisian could expect a gentleman to wear a tie without a collar.

The new theatrical trust is starting in at a bad time. The trust smashers are hold ing the boards at present.

The Hon. Champ Clark says history lies in regard to T. Jefferson's tariff and currency views. In a question of veracity between Champ and history it is a reckless person who will not side with Champ.

The Democratic orators in the house are not converting anybody with their harangues, but they are delaying the business of congress and the business of the coun-

There is a prevalent impression that General Grosvenor will not be able to get in a left-hander over the solar plexus of the civil service law.

The supreme court should not imagine that it is the only trust buster in the country. Webb McNall, the insurance czar of Kansas, is an esteemed contemporary.

The announcement that 50,000 wheelmen will vote together at the coming Chicago election is likely to give candidates the bicycle face. "Where is John J. Ingalls?" asks a Wash-

ington contemporary. Busily engaged in

pasting in his scrapbook the press comments on his late journalistic feat—we don't think. The Kansas Populists are going after the minor offices and clerkships with a voracity

and disregard of decency which indicate a

conviction that it is their last grab. If there is a blowhole anywhere in that supreme court decision the railway attorneys can be depended on to find it.

The people, the law and good public policy are against the anti-park kickers, but that makes no difference to them. Mossbacks will be mossbacks, and the only way to handle pests of that sort is to shove them aside and go ahead with the proces-

The fact that the winners in the Yale-Harvard debate were those who advocated

bimetallism doesn't alter the more important fact that free silver is as dead as a door nail or William J. Bryan.

With Joe Bristow as fourth assistant postmaster general and Tom Ryan as first assistant secretary of the interior, Kansas may conclude that it pays to go Democratic.

The esteemed New York Sun criticises The Journal's position in regard to President McKinley and the officeseekers. The officeseekers, says the Sun, have as much right to seek office as Mr. McKinley had pefore his election. And that is true. The Journal has not condemned anybody for wanting and seeking office. It merely expressed the opinion that it was the presiient's duty to himself and to the country to keep the hungry crowds at bay. The right to seek office doesn't carry with it the right to hinder important public business and kill a president.

Probably Greece has too much self-respect to take orders from those whom the Turk contemptuously ignores.

As a college preceptor William L. Wilson should stick close to the text books. He is not a success with object lessons.

The free trade organs are quite sure the Dingley bill will produce either too much revenue or not enough. The free traders are fully determined the country shall suffer from that wicked measure in some

"Why," inquires a New York woman, "do ou seldom see a pretty woman on a bicycle?" Possibly because you are in New York. In Kansas City we see an endless procession of them.

"Important Kentucky Measure" is a Lousville headline. The quart, of course.

The New York Sun recently gave a list of 'ten best poets." and not one of the ten hails from Indiana. Yet the Sun pretends that its opinion is worth something.

When the tariff bill reaches the senate we may expect to hear some powerful speeches on the free and unlimited coinage

The fact that the civil service law is a good thing doesn't change the fact that it has a number of absurdities in it that ought to be taken out. It would be a much etter thing if made to conform more nearly to the requirements of practical common sense. The best public servants the country ever had could not have passed the examination now required of an applicant for a \$50 clerkship.

## KANSAS TOPICS.

A suit was filed at Topeka yesterday in which the Vicomtesse de Castellane, nee Anna Gould, was made defendant. It was over an issue growing out of her father's connection with the old Kansas Pacific.

A Kansas man who recently called on McKinley in his private office found Dennis Flynn sitting right up next.

Clark Conkling, of the Lyons Republican, has nominated Charley Curtis for congressman-at-large. Miss Noon, of Cawker City, was married

to her knight at Smith Center the other morning. A lot of Kansas papers are estimating

that 2,000 fourth class postmasters will be recruited for Cy Leland's candidacy for the United States senate. The Arkansas City Traveler announces J. Mack Love as a candidate for vice president on the ticket with W. J. Bryan in

After carefully scanning their recom-mendations to see that the name of no Republican state senator has slipped in by accident, the candidates for fourth class ostoffices will now proceed to mail them to Hon. Joe Bristow, the man who won

out over a protest. As a symbol of the friendship which sticks, the ladies of Eldorado have named their social organization the "Sandbur Club." It will be just as apropos after the

The railroad men all agree that M. A. Low, chief attorney in the West for the Rock Island, is one of the greatest men in the country in his knowledge of freigh schedules. Though not in his department the intricacies of a tariff sheet are to him as an open book.

Bill Morgan says that the people down in his region who are abusing Jack Ingalis the loudest for his part in the Carson prize fight were fighting like wolves to get to the bulletin board the day it occurred.

Topics spoke recently of Mr. Charles F. Scott, of Northwestern Kansas, who is writing some clever things in the Swede dialect. Here is one of his latest:

Oh, da spring tam now ban kooming, En da grass ban toorning green, Ay kan hear da bees a hooming As da voork dar "buzz" masheen, En da boys ha ban a smiling Kos ha knows das poorty quick, Da skal shake off shoort en trousers,

En vent sviming een da krick. Lot of tams, ven av ban voonger, Ay ban voorken roun da place, Ved ma leetle heart voost busting, En beeg tears streak down ma face

Kos av seen soom oder fallers, Trough da field, dar pathvay pic', As da sneak off from dair fadder To vent sviming een da krick.

How ay vant to vent long ved dam, Vare da sun-kissed vatters gleam, Dare to hape a game at leap frog, As ve yoomp een to da stream, Dane ay look at dose long korn rows En eet meck ma poorty sick

Sted of sviming een da krick. Oh, da "sviming days" of boyhood, Ha shal naffer ban forgot, How ha skampered roun da san'bar,

Ven da sun ban blazing hot, How ha roob mood on has blisters, Broosh has hair dry ved a stick, So das fader not kan find ote Ha ban sviming een da krick.

hough \$150 a year would seem to be entirely inadequate as a return for his commanding abilities. But even this pittance would not have come to him had he not taken the advice of friends and changed his application from "something good" "anything, O Lord." Yellow Wolf, the oldest of the Chickasaw

Colonel D. C. Tillotson landed at last,

Indian tribe in Oklahoma, is dead. He assed away at his home near Fort Washita at the age of 108 years, last week, after esiding there for nearly fifty years. He was born in Mississippi in 1789. He was full cousin to Aunt Sallie Alverson, a Chickasaw who died last October at the age of 113. Rev. Jessie Ackerman will dedicate the

ine new Baptist church at Pittsburg on April 4. This edifice was erected through the efforts of Rev. Edith Hill-Booker. pastor of the congregation. Miss Ackeran has been around the world twice and is the world's organizer for the W. C. T. U. It is said that the choir at the dedication services, together with the ushers and other officials, will be chosen entirely from among the women.

It is probable that a careful search of

every Populist member of the late legislature would fail to discover the following extract from Bryan's Topeka speech pasted within a single hat band: "You cannot go out, if you have a majority of nearly two thirds, as we have in Nebraska, and tell the people if they will make it unanimous you will try to do something. It won't do my friends. Those who are in the ma-

jority must bear the responsibility," One of the loudest calamity yelpers in Kansas is an Irishman who was born in a hovel and grew up to manhood among the pigs and potato sacks which divided nosession in his father's house. He can America and made a fortune cutting hay off government land and selling it to a government military post. Later he took a government claim and ranged his cottle for years on public lands. Between spells of cursing the government he finds time to draw checks for the payment of his daughter's tuition at the Boston Conservatory of Music and for the education of his only son at one of the leading colleges.

There are three colored revivals in progress in Atchison, says the Globe, and at each the sinners are the subject of a great deal of attention. At one of them is an old woman exhorter, however, wno does not plead with the wicked when she gets them on the anxious seat, but roasts them. "Now, say," she said to a sinner last night, 'you thinks youse smart, but you all' work is coarse. You thinks you looks purty with you all's biled shirt on, but you don't. Youse looks like a mud bank what had been hit in de face with a board." The Ebenezer Baptists had two converts last night. Such songs as "Sometimes I think I never was born." "I Never Did Know I Was So Good," etc., created a great deal of enthusiasm. "I Have Been Waiting to See You Come," and "Open the Window, Nora," moved the audience perceptibly a the Methodist church, one woman getting religion and shouting. There have wenty-seven converts at the Methodis church, and more coming in every night. People drop around to the meetings any time from 8 to 10 o'clock.

The somewhat strained relations which at times exist between the country editor and his patrons are aptly illustrated in the following letter, which was addressed to, and published in, the Seneca Tribune:

"Eds. Tribune:-I have notified you twice to send me the Tribune. If you are afraid won't pay for it, why don't you say so? If you don't want to send it you can go to h-l. A- T-."

To this the editor responds as follows:

We are not afraid he won't pay for the paper. We recognize him as a deadbeat and know positively, without any fear, tha he wouldn't pay anything that he could avoid. His advice, that we can take the choice of sending him the paper or traveling to hades, lacks validity. We will do neither. Although we are acclimated to the sudden changes in Kansas weather, we freely confess the doubt that our physical construction is adequate to sustain se radical a shift as a descent to the infernal region.

#### Aids to Matrimony, From the Philadelphia Press.

The promotion of matrimony is a subject which is occupying a large share of public showed that the country was short about 1,500,000 in births for the previous ten years and the fear has been expressed that the United States may be approaching the con-dition of France where the increase in population is hardly perceptible. Different rea

sons have been assigned for this state of things and many methods have been pro posed for renewing an interest in matriony. Among these are the taxing of bachelors, young women societies for the promotion of the matrimonial prospects of members, and bounties for and raising familles. But the last proposed policy of offering bounties in this country

will probably be confined to the production of sugar beets. Something can be said in favor of the other two plans, and the club plan is sure to have a trial. Such an organization has been formed in Detroit, Mich., composed of illes in that city. Each member is solemnly pledged to assist every other member in her matrimonial designs and to aid her in securing a husband and a home. The nized that the great end of matrimony is the happiness of the persons entering the wedded state and that in order to win a that she is capable of promoting the good disposition of others. To this end the tempermental peculiarities of each member are to be studied and any tendency to moros ness, belligerency of tongue or sourness of disposition is to be promptly and energetically corrected. On the other hand, all attractive qualities are to be sought out and developed. Another duty of the club

members will be to observe the habits of

marriageable young men and report and discuss the same at the meetings. This appears to be a legitimate and entirely natural method of promoting matrimony and much more acceptable than th taxing, or forcing, method. A Kansas City minister recently created a sensation by declaring in the pulpit that when a young man has reached the age of 22 and is still unmarried he should be taxed \$100. If he is a bachelor at 23 he should be taxed \$200, and the tax should be increased at the rate of \$100 a year until the man is 30 years old. Then, if he is not yet married, he ought to be put in the penitentiary. The taxing method is an old plan of promoting matrimony and was tried in Maryland as far back as 1754, when bachelors were taxed along with other luxuries. But it is doubtful if such an aid toward promoting matrimony would have the concurrence of the women themselves. A Chicago woman minister's remarks and said that from 22 to 25 years of age a young man ought to should be putting himself in a position to buy a pair of shoes every month without becoming bankrupt. At 30 years of age he is eligible and will almost always marry, but if he is unmarried at 35 no sensible woman ought to have him.

With these objections on the part of vomen to taxing bachelors it is doubtful it matrimony could be promoted much in this way. But there is still another method of accomplishing the same purpose. It is known that a large number of young abstain from matrimony on account of the fear that the young women of to-day are not prepared to assume the responsibilities

In a lecture on the domestic training of our daughters, delivered a few days ago in St. Paul, Minn., Mrs. A. W. Rankin proposed to remedy this situation by obliging young women to undergo an examina tion as to their fitness to become wive and by giving them certificates according to their deserts. Perfection in all things in Mrs. Rankin's system would be indicated by the figure 144, and proficiency in differ ent duties by the following numbers: Offhand cookery, without receipt book, 91/2; fancy cookery, 8; sweeping and dusting, 9; darning and mending, 9; plain sewing, 7; cutting and fitting, 9; buttonholes, 10; emproidery and fine needlework, 9; plain iron ing, 9; starching and polishing, 10; washng, 10; care of beds and bedding, 10; san itation and hygiene, 9; disinfection, 8; nurs ing and cooking for sick, 8; care of infants. 514. Certificates of this kind would be an assurance to young men that they were not making a mistake in the young wom

All these methods of promoting matriony are worth considering. The discus sion of them might be recommended to the Fathers' and Mothers' Congress which neets in Brooklyn, April 28, and which will debate the best method of rearing children. But perhaps the congress could not promote matrimony in any better way than by to bring up parents. With the right kind f parents there would be the right kind of sons and daughters and marriage would

not need to be encouraged. It would encour

## More Faith.

George H. Hepworth, in New York Herald. we walk by faith, not by sight .- II. Corinthians, v:7. The picture which Paul draws is pecul-

arly touching and pathetic. He tells us in effect that we are a long listance from home, but bids us be of good cheer, since every year brings us nearer to The journey upward is by no means an easy one, but the daily struggle with cir-

cumstances is necessary to spiritual discipline. There are times, he says, when we fall upon a mood that closely resembles despair, and when we "earnestly desire to be lothed upon" with the immortal life, but he urges us to be patient, to make the best and the most of these lower opportunities, for the hour will come when we shall sethat everything has been arranged for our

Paul. It was vividly before him all the time. After his cornersion his outlook was so different that the present life seemed a good deal like a curious dream, while the life to come excited his imagination and filled him with an intense longing to be absent from the body and present with

the Lord." We cannot quite lay hold of such an experience as that, because our religion is in the comparison a thing of shreds and patches. Our belief is based on a rough sort of guess rather than on a firm and logical conviction. Paul's faith was a tremendous fact and an irresistible force in his character. He would have counted it a privilege to die for it at any moment He regarded this preliminary life as less than nothing and the life to come as the long awaited consummation of all his opes. Our faith, on the contrary, is apt to be clouded by dispiriting uncertainty. Our the tempest strikes us the anchor drags

and we are drift.

One difficulty is that we spend too little time in thinking seriously about spiritual concerns. I do not desire to make a harsh unfair criticism, but let me ask these questions: How many hours during the last month have you given to a careful examination of your most interior self? How much time, on the other hand, have you devoted to making better arrangements for vour physical welfare?

A candid confession will contain a great surprise. You will discover that, while you have planned very carefully for the comfort of the body, you have done next to deed, there are very few persons who have equired a thoroughly intimate acquaint ance with their own spiritual natures. The ordinary rule of life is to cultivate physica tastes and let the spirit feed on what is

can get for itself.

How is it possible, then, to have any large or quickening faith? If a mother refuses to ourish her babe need she be disappointed if it grows up both dwarfed and deformed If we pretend that the soul is the most im portant part of a man and then starve it well nigh to death by criminal neglect, car we ever possess a vigorous religion, or be

Is it not curious, or, more than that, is it not an unaccountable anomaly, that the world should be full of well develope bodies and undeveloped souls? How eager ly we guard our physical health, and how quickly, at the slightest encroachment of disease, we send for some skilled physician who has spent his life in studying malign possibilities and in finding the means o werting them! Suppose we were to appraise our spiritual natures at an equa valuation. Suppose we were as timid about the inroads which a temptation could make and were as wary of any spiritual injury that threatened. Suppose we were as conversant with the needs of the soul as we are with the requirements of our bodily organs, and at the approach of danger should immediately seek the relief which s never beyond reach. Life would be come a very different thing, and our condition, instead of being abnormal, as would change to one of health and strength. At present we magnify the least

I believe that any man can transform and transfigure his own nature, and by a very simple process. Cultivate a profounder acquaintance with yourself, and you will ver now ignorant. Look within for your comfort and happiness rather than without and you will find that life is assuming ar entirely different aspect. A study of your own soul will dispose of most of your loubts and give you a repose, a self-poss sion, a serenity of temper and a sense of ecurity which can be had in no other way Faith will fill your days as with incense and the consciousness of God's presen will steal over you to strengthen and in

spire. Give your soul an opportunity to becom a practical factor in your life, let it domincorner as heretofore, and both the heavens

nd the earth will become new. The religion of Christ makes the other vorld so grandly real that this world dwindles in the comparison, and it makes the soul so princely that nothing less than the highest virtues are worthy to be entertained by it. If we could live on that plane we should hear the voice of God and see the

## faces of angels every day in the year. Lenten Approximation.

From the Philadelphia Press. The constant reference to Lenten days, Lenten observances, Lenten denials, Lentn recreations and Lenten restings which the secular press and gives a distinct tinge to cartoon and comment and the seaso joke, is not without its effect. And this a Lenten approximation, by which those divisions of the universal church that have hitherto eschewed special devotional periods are more and more inclined to ob

serve holy days and weeks, festal and pen-

itential, and so make for an outward unity

in Christendom

There is this tendency and the curiou fact is it is not a case of pulpit directing the belief of the pew but of pew affecting not the theology but modifying the manners of the pulpit. This is, of course, mos noticeable in the general observance of Easter, now common to the evangelical and non-liturgical as well as to the liturgi cal churches. It, of course, has been easie for the pew to affect even a rebellious pulpit in the matter of one great spring church fete than it has for it to brin about an objective observance of Lent but the actuality and universality of Len is so drummed into the ears of everybody these days that the approximation is mor

ing steadily onward. Just how far this tendency to imitation and it is one which has played a great part n the development of customs me beliefs-will be productive of more than a nere superficial and apparent unity of belief is not easy to declare, but as every year much more is made of Lent than ever before as one of the social divisions of the year, the pew in time will convinc the pulpit, perhaps, that the outward approximation is as good for the soul as for the body. And from this a much deeper unity may be developed.

#### Since Mary Rides the Wheel. From the New York Tribune. Mrs. Lease has returned to Wichita fron

er Eastern lecture tour, having shed her Populistic plumage and taken on a growing crop of Socialistic pinfeathers, of which the ultimate hue and texture cannot yet be prefigured. She says that Socialism is the practice of Christianity, and that there is to hope for the masses until our social sys tem is entirely reconstructed. She has in some degree reconstructed her own by cutting down her rhetorical practice best correctives known of too free a flow of words without wisdom, her besetting affliction at home and abroad since history became aware of her.

## OF CURRENT INTEREST.

The Fitzsimmons family is badly mixed. Mrs. Fitzsimmons No. 1 married the brother of Mrs. Fitzsimmons No. 2. Therefore, as some genealogical crank has figured it the sister-in-law of her former husband's wife. Mr. Julian is the brother-in law of his own wife, and the stepfather of his nephew, Charley Fitzsimmons, who is the nephew of his own father. simmons is brother-in-law to his first wife. uncle of his own son and stepfather and uncle of his first wife's daughter by Julian Little Bob Fitzsimmons is a first cousin of his half-brother, and, being a stepson of Mrs. Fitz No. 1 is also the stepson of his own uncle, Mr. Julian. The little Julian girl is the stepdaughter of her uncle, Robert Fitzsimmons, Sr., and, consequently, the daughter of her own aunt. Space forbids the pursuit of this family connection to its extreme possibilities.

The best judges of whisky in the United States senate in recent years were Joe Blackburn and Beck. They could taste a glassful out of a fresh barrel and tell whether there was a carpet tack or a leather washer at the bottom. Senator Coke always took a long toddy, says "Tip." in the New York Press. Mills is a lover of beer. Joe Hawley and Platt, of Connecticut, are devoted to lemonade. Gallinger drinks hot soda in winter and iced offee in summer. Vest is an apollinaria flend. He stopped liquor fifteen years ago. Frye and Gorman are apollinaris drinkers Gorman mixes his with lemonade. Morrill and Proctor are satisfied with milk. Steve White and Shoup prefer the wine of the country to any living thing. Hale is a champagne man, but never touches it dirner. Daniel and Martin drink whisky,

John Parshall, who has just died in Indianapolis was a member of the Alexander expedition sent to Salt Lake City to force Brigham Young to evacuate his office and allow the successor whom President Buchanan had appointed to take his seat. He was also one of the six men who disposed of the body of John Wilkes Boo slayer of Abraham Lincoln. He attended the performance at Ford's theater, saw the fatal shot fired, and was one of the seldiers who pursued the assassin through the wings to the stage door. When the actor-murderer was finally shot and taken. Parshall was one of the six men deputed to dispose of his remains in such a manner that the secret of their resting place should never be known.

Abdul Hamid, the sultan of Turkey, possesses one of the rarest collections in existence. The treasures are kept in a casket-like room in the Seraglio at Constantinople. Among them is the most valuable parasol in the world. It is of white silk, embroidred with gold threads, wrought at intervals with precious stones. Its chief value, however, lies in the staff, which is one long. superb piece of coral. Some of the rarest gems in the collection are interwoven in embroidered texts from the Koran. Golden bird cages, studded with jeweis, hang from the ceiling, each cage containing a jeweled clock. There are personal ornaments of all kinds, some of them almost priceless

American farmers who have considered the potato bug pest a great ca view their lot with equanimity as com-pared with the troubles of their brethren in Argentine and Uruguay arising from number of locusts that have played havoc with the grain growing portions of those countries, it is told that over great areas the streams have been almost completely choked up by the young of the insects. The odor thus caused became so offensive that cattle would not drink the water and

no human being could go near the streams. Liverpool is to make an experiment of worldwide interest. The city corporation has bought the street car lines and omnius routes of the local company for £567.-375, a good premium on the market price of the stock, and proposes to operate the whole system after August as a municipal The plan is to create a sinking ffeir. fund from the profits of the enterprise for that is accomplished the city treasury will benefit by the earnings of the city tram-

ways and cabs. Dr. W. E. Gerrish, of Seymour, Ind., has applied to Harvard university for a schol-arship for his son, under the provisions of a legacy left to the college by William Pen terested in fitting out the Mayflower. He among other things, the income of this sum was to be expended in two scholarships, to the testator. Young Gerrish is a lineal decendant of William Pennoyer on his me

Wines are served at nearly all the table bote places in New York with 25 and 50ent dinners. It need surprise no one, These wines are made from the cheapest California clarets, costing by the barrel from 15 to 20 cents a gallon. As there are ive quart bottles to the gallon and ten pint bottles, it will be seen that the prices are respectively 4 and 2 cents each.

d'hote claret is nearly as cheap as water. How should a recently bereaved widow dress for her blcycle exercise? The question has been solved by a young Philadelphia woman who takes a daily spin dressed in black turban, black dress, black leggings, black gloves, and with the handle bars wrapped in black crepe and flying with black streamers. The pet dog is also dyed black. No mistake is made when this fair bicyclist whirls along; she is the widow in

her wheeling weeds. Morgantown, W. Va., and vicinity must be set down as a "happy land." The receipt of a large sum to be devoted to the eeds of any destitute family of the town led to a diligent investigation by a charlishing the fact that there was not in the cent country a family so poor that it needed the money.

tablishment the British and Foreign Bible Society has distributed 147,365,669 Bibles, ents, and books of extracts from the Scriptures. It has been recently found out that in Persia these publications are utilized by the natives in the manufacture of papier mache articles. William Jennings Landrigan, of Topeka, has been compelled to discontinue the practice of writing his name in full, be-

In the ninety-three years since its es-

recent Popocratic presidential candidate, and people were continually asking him whether he was a relative of the silverite Germany is following the lead of London in putting religious plays upon the stage. dolf Wilbrandt's "Hairan," under which name Christ is represented, has just been presented at Berlin and received coldiv.

ause he cannot abide the doctrines of the

while Gerhardt Hauptmann is at work on drama whose subject is the "Passion." Alphonse Bertillon, of France, who invented the Bertillon system of measuring onvicts, advocates the exemption from direct taxation of every family in which there are three children, and the imposition of an extra tax of 20 per cent upon

There were some persons at a social gathering in Middletown, Md., who preferred to play cards rather than dance, and those who had elected to dance soon found themselves compelled to go home, cayenne pepper having been sprinkled the dancing floor.

all those not thus provided.

Chicago will be enriched on April 1 by the John Crerar library of books treating of the natural, the physical and the social sciences, with their applications. When the library is opened there will be more than 15,000 volumes ready for use, and 7,000 more in preparation. It is Greater New York flow, in fact This

makes it the second city in the world, with an area of 317.77 square miles and 3,400,000 population, increasing at the rate of 490 every twenty-four hours.